

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

5 obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be low.

10 2. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

15 3. The method of claim 2, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

20 4. The method of claim 3, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

25 5. The method of claim 2, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then displaying no notification.

30 6. The method of claim 5, the method further comprising:
if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then displaying no notification.

35 7. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit brightness value, then displaying a notification indicating that the exposure amount in the digital image may be low

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8. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then displaying a notification indicating that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

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9. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

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10. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

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11. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is less than an upper limit brightness value and greater than a lower limit brightness value, then displaying no notification.

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12. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then displaying no notification.

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13. The method of claim 1, wherein the digital image is taken by a digital camera.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a digital camera.

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15. The method of claim 12, wherein the digital camera comprises a digital signal processor that performs the method.

16. A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is less than a lower limit deviation value and the average brightness in the histogram is greater than an upper limit brightness value, then determining that the exposure amount in the digital image may be high.

17. A method of determining inappropriate exposure amounts in a digital image, the method comprising:

obtaining a brightness histogram related to data of a digital image;

if the standard deviation in brightness in the histogram is greater than a lower limit deviation value, then determining the exposure amount to be acceptable.

18. A method of determining inadequate quality in a digital image, the method comprising:

ascertaining the resolution and the compression rate of the digital image;

ascertaining a lower limit file size value appropriate for the ascertained

resolution and compression rate;

comparing the file size of the digital image with the ascertained lower limit file size value;

if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, determining that the quality of the digital image may be inadequate.

19. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising:

if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, determining that an exposure amount in the digital image may be inappropriate.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the digital image is captured by a digital camera, the method further comprising:

if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, determining that the digital camera suffered from excessive movement while capturing the digital image.

21. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising:
if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, displaying a notification indicating that the quality of the digital image may be inadequate.

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22. The method of claim 18, the method further comprising:
if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, displaying a notification indicating that an exposure amount in the digital image may be inappropriate.

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23. The method of claim 18, wherein the digital image is captured by a digital camera, the method further comprising:
if the digital image file size is less than the ascertained lower limit file size value, displaying a notification indicating that the digital camera suffered from excessive movement while capturing the digital image.

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24. The method of claim 18, wherein the lower limit file size value for a particular resolution and compression rate is determined by taking the difference between an average file size value of sample images at the same resolution and compression rate and an adjustment coefficient multiplied by the standard deviation of the sample images at the same resolution and compression rate.

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25. The method of claim 18, wherein the lower limit file size values are found in a lookup table.

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26. The method of claim 25, wherein the lookup table contains lower limit file size values for particular resolutions and compression rates.

26. The method of claim 18, wherein the digital image is taken by a digital camera.

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27. The method of claim 18, wherein the method is performed by a digital camera.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the digital camera comprises a digital signal processor that performs the method.

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